

PINEAPPLE
CULTIVATIONInteresting Communication From
Pen of J. A. Ankeney.

HOW FRUIT IS RAISED

Prepared for Southern Ruralist
and won Fifth Prize.—Of interest
Primarily to Non-Residents.

The following article was written by J. A. Ankeney, of Eldred, for the Southern Ruralist, won the fifth prize in a contest recently, and we reproduce it, for the information of our residents who are familiar with the growth of pineapples, but for the homeseekers who are now in our vicinity and for those who are looking this way for a living.

The East Coast of Florida, and particularly the Indian River and Lake Wales sections, have to some extent become famous for the quality and quantity of pineapples they produce. Cuba the Bahama Islands ship year after year hundreds of steamer loads of this fruit to our northern markets, and for years it has been feared that these imports would seriously interfere with the production of the Indian River pineapple, which still holds its reputation for the sweetest and most marketable fruit of its kind. The growers of this fruit have learned the scientific way to raise their fruit and they lead in the world in methods of culture. Fertilization has been studied from a scientific standpoint and the results have been phenomenal in the fruit, far superior in carrying qualities and flavor to that of our neighbors.

The pineapple plant grows somewhat like a century plant, but its leaves are similar to the leaves of an orchid. The uninitiated it may be well to state that a pineapple does not grow on a pine tree, as some of our tourists are surprised to discover. The apple itself is shown by a crimson blush on the "heart" leaves of the old plant and in a few weeks a well-shaped, tiny pink pineapple appears. This grows upward on a stalk from four to eight inches long, changing its pink color for one of green. When the fruit is fully matured, ready to pick for shipping, it is of deep wine color and from that it will ripen to the yellow, as commonly seen. The old plant dies and new ones develop at its base. These suckers have the root power of the old plant and grow very rapidly, bearing the following year. As from two to three suckers sprout from each old root, the course of a few years unless some have been removed, there will be three or four times as many plants on the ground as were original planted.

The original settings of a field are generally suckers or slips, although crowns or tops to pineapples are sometimes used. Slips are small plants that sprout from the fruit stalk around the base of the pineapple. When the field is picked they are left to grow and be planted later in the summer or fall, two or three being the average number of them to a pineapple. The slips are set out in squares 20 feet apart and carefully "scuffled" cultivated with hand cultivators for a year. Each summer and fall they are fertilized.

The first crop comes two years from the time of planting and should average from 250 to 300 crates per acre. The harvesting season commences in June and lasts for about six weeks. Each "bin" has its packing house in which the crate material is stored, the crates are loaded and the apples brought there in wheelbarrows, tram-cars or wagons, and packed. Of course, different growers have different ideas of what width of beds is best, but generally 18 or 20 feet are planted before a "trail" or "bin" is left. The beds may be as long as the land is suitable for. To pick the fruit, one man called a picker or "breaker," walks through the beds lengthwise and tosses the apples to a "roller" in the path, who wheels them to the packing house, and places them carefully in "bins" or table with six inch sides built about waist high, where they can be sized, wrapped and placed in a crate. The standard sizes are 18, 24, 30, 36, 42 and 48.

Like other fruits, there are a number of varieties, the more common being Smooth Cayenne, Abbaka, Queen, Porto Rico and Red Spanish. The latter are universal use, having been found to give the best satisfaction for all purposes. Taking it all in all, the pineapple business is a very interesting as well as profitable industry in this great food-producing world of ours, and only too few people know the process of its culture, so different from northern farming.

The Show is Coming.

The Sun Brothers' New Railroad Show, Trained Animal Exposition, are coming and with them the grandest array of talent ever seen or brought together. Aside from the educating and entertainment carnival, grand and valuable menagerie, this aggregation presents the cream of the acrobats, tumblers, aerial artists and educated horses.

Lack of space prevents an extended account of the sterling attractions to be seen only with the Sun Brothers' New Railroad Shows, but among them may be mentioned the marvelous Hill Family, six in number, the leaders of refined acrobats, posers and pyramiders; the cute little riding pony; Madam Nita Le Garde and her team of Arabian beauties; the Hardell Bros. in their sterling aerial acts; Prof. Ashburn and his school of six trained ponies; those Marion Boys and their performing donkeys, their score of beautiful, intelligent horses and the crowd of comical clowns, jesters, Buffoons and pantomimists. These are a few of the attractions, but only a few. Two performances will be given daily, rain or shine, at 2 and 8 p. m. Grand free street parade at 12 o'clock noon on the day of exhibition. Will be at Fort Pierce, Saturday, December, 23.

MASONIC ELECTION
AND BANQUET

At a meeting of the Fort Pierce Lodge, No. 87, F. & A. M. held last Friday evening it was decided to hold a public installation of officers on St. Johns day, December 27th, which will be followed by a banquet, to which only Masons and members of their families will be invited. There will be no complimentary tickets, but all members of Fort Pierce Lodge No. 87, and visiting brethren are invited, and they should make application to the refreshment committee for tickets as early as possible, so that an estimate may be made of the number to be provided.

The refreshment committee is composed of F. M. Tyler, R. L. Goodwin and H. E. Crooks, and are the same committee who so successfully handled the banquet last year, and those who were present on that occasion can vouch for the excellence of the spread that awaits the Masonic fraternity on the annual feast day of the order. The committee will be enabled to do even better this year, as the banquet will be confined only to Masons and members of their families, which will make the gathering more congenial and less unwieldy to handle in the banquet hall.

The banquet will be held in the Fort Pierce hotel, and will be limited to 100 guests. The price per plate is one dollar. Make your application for tickets early as the number is compelled to be limited to give ample accommodations.

Notice to the Public.

The Fort Pierce Furniture company is under sole management of J. H. Shuler, and the public is warned not to make any bargain for the purchase of goods, not settle any accounts with any other party. J. H. SHULER, Manager, Fort Pierce Furniture Co.

APPOINTMENTS FOR
METHODIST CHURCH

The annual conference of the Methodist church which was in session at Ocala has adjourned, and Bishop Candler made the following appointments for the East Coast district:

S. W. Lawler, presiding elder.
Key West, First Church—E. A. Harrison.

Key West, Spark's Chapel—C. C. Cecil.
Key West, Memorial church—W. A. Myers.

Key West, La Trinidad—M. Domingez.
Key Largo Mission—To be supplied.
Biscayne Bay—To be supplied by B. C. Sharp.

Lemon City—To be supplied.
Delray—L. Oser.

Miami—L. D. Lowe.

West Palm Beach—H. Hice.

Fort Pierce and Stuart—T. W. Tomkins.

Indian River Mission—To be supplied by Oliver Faus.

Titusville Circuit—W. F. Allen.

New Smyrna and Port Orange—J. M. Glazier.

Daytona—J. E. Mickler.

DeLand—R. L. Honiker.

Volusia—To be supplied by W. Louded.

Palatka—J. F. Bell.

Missionary to Cuba—H. W. Baker.

Editor Florida Christian Advocate—F. Pasco.

Conference Missionary Secretary—H. E. Partridge.

Gone to West Palm Beach.

Herman Bentel, till recently employed here in the bakery of Faber Bros., left Monday night for West Palm Beach, where he will work at his trade. Mr. Bentel expects shortly to open a bakery of his own at Stuart, his family leaving here for that thriving village today. His friends wish him the best of success at his undertaking.

Delightful Launch Ride.

Messrs. Roy Faber, Wilson Godfrey; Attorney Fred Fee and Frank Stetson; Misses Annabel Brown, Genie Harris, Grace Paxton and Lillian Milton made a party to visit the beach Sunday afternoon. The trip was very much enjoyed, although the weather was quite cold.

Why bother to make fruit cake when you can get the best ready made at W. E. Goldsmith.

With 6,000 men at work on the Key West extension a great deal should be accomplished in a year.

WORTHY LADY
PASSES AWAYMrs. Rebecca J. Richards Died
During Thursday Night.

EDEN'S PIONEER CITIZEN

Had been in Better Health During Past
Month.—The End Came at Stuart
While Visiting Her Son.

Quietly during the night of Thursday, December 7th, all that was mortal of Rebecca J. Richards, widow of the late Thomas E. Richards, passed away at the home of her son, Harry W. Richards, at Stuart. So quiet and unexpected was her demise that her death was not known until members of the family went to her room Friday morning to call her to breakfast, and found that her spirit had taken its flight sometime during the night.

The body was brought from Stuart to Eden on Mr. McPherson's beautiful launch, Saturday morning, and carried into the Eden Congregational church by her friends, where funeral services were conducted by Rev. H. H. Jones, and one of the deceased favorite hymns was sung as a solo by Mrs. W. R. Hardee, after which the remains were consigned to the grave in the Eden cemetery. The floral offerings were lavish and most beautiful, and a large concourse of her friends accompanied the remains to the grave as a last tribute of respect to one who had lived so long as a central figure in the community.

Mrs. Richards was born in New York city, March 4, 1833, and was the daughter of Noah Brown, who was one of the wealthiest men and greatest shipbuilders of his day, having built the naval fleet commanded by Commodore Perry at the battle of Lake Erie, as well as the fleets of Captains Macdonough and Chauncey, and many blockhouses during the war of 1812. Her ancestors were of Puritan stock, being a descendant on her father's side of Peter Brown, who came to America on the Mayflower, while her mother's family came from the shores of Holland.

The deceased came to the Indian River in the fall of 1881, following her husband, Thomas E. Richards, two years after his arrival, and has made her home since at Eden, the spot where her husband first located and named, because he found it such a paradise as compared with their late home in Connecticut.

For the past month or more Mrs. Richards has appeared to be in better health than usual, and despite her old age, has made several trips to the neighboring towns with her daughter, Mrs. J. H. LeTourneau, having made Fort Pierce a visit about three weeks ago, besides going to Ankona, Sewals Point and other places, and seemed delighted to meet her friends when ever she went out. After spending a month with her daughter at Eden, she went to Stuart on November 29th, to visit her son and his family, where she seemed to be enjoying good health even to the day of her death.

The deceased leaves three children, Harry W. Richards, of Stuart, Frank B. Richards and Mrs. J. H. LeTourneau, of Eden, and twelve grandchildren to mourn her loss, to whom THE TRIBUNE and the hosts of friends extend sympathy, in the hope that they may be consoled by the memory of deceased life, and the confidence of her glorious immortality.

"Her sun went down in the evening of life, but it sank to rise again amid the splendor of a day—bright, fresh, eternal." May she rest in peace.

Masonic Election in Titusville.

The annual election of officers in the Masonic lodge at Titusville was held Wednesday evening and the following were elected for the ensuing year: F. A. Morgan, worshipful master; J. N. Waller, senior warden; P. H. Roberts, junior warden; A. D. Penney, senior deacon; P. G. Walton, junior deacon; J. L. Carruthers, secretary; G. F. Duren, treasurer. The lodge will have a public installation St. John's day.

Notice to Taxpayers.

The tax books of the town of Fort Pierce will be open every afternoon from 1 to 2 o'clock in the Mayor's office. D. L. ALDERMAN, Marshal.

RAILROAD OFFICIALS
VISIT FORT PIERCE

A special train bearing Messrs. Henry M. Flagler, J. R. Parrott, J. P. Beckwith, J. E. Ingraham and R. T. Goff, officials of the Florida East Coast railway, arrived in Fort Pierce Wednesday evening just behind the regular passenger train, and remained here on the sidetrack all night.

During the evening Messrs. Parrott, Beckwith, Ingraham and Goff made a trip around town, and called at the office of their attorney, C. T. McCarty, where matters of interest to the road were discussed.

The train left here at 7 o'clock Wednesday morning, going to White City Junction, where the party entered carriages and drove through White City to the St. Lucie river, where they boarded a launch and made the run down the river to Stuart, and again boarded their train for Miami and points south on the extension.

The object of this trip was to show Mr. Flagler the many improvements along the road, also the work that has been done on the St. Lucie river to lower the water in that stream during the wet weather, as well as to view the work on the extension of the road toward Key West.

The members of the party were much impressed with the progress of Fort Pierce since their last visit, and it is regretted that their stay could not have been longer, that they might view the town by daylight.

SUDDEN DEATH OF
REV. C. A. FULWOOD

Rev. Charles A. Fulwood, of Miami, one of the patriarchs of the Florida Methodist Conference, fell dead in the Ocala church last Thursday morning.

Mr. Fulwood was born in Georgia, 77 years ago, and at an early age joined the Georgia conference. He was transferred to the Florida conference in 1871, and has been preaching in this State ever since, having occupied some of the most important pulpits in the State, both as pastor and as presiding elder.

Mr. Fulwood was addressing the conference, asking for the privilege of being superannuated, and telling of his experiences as a Methodist preacher; of how long he had occupied the pulpit and of his great love for the church. He said that he regretted being compelled to ask to be superannuated, but that failing health made it necessary for him to take this step. He said that he had been to Georgia on a vacation, and was greatly benefitted, but that he felt too feeble to undertake a pastorate for the coming year. There were tears in his eyes, and the scene became so pathetic that all of the preachers gathered around and shook his hand, and the tension and excitement was so intense that he was attacked by heart failure and fell to the floor, and all efforts to revive him failed.

Mr. Fulwood was accompanied by his wife, who was in the church at the time of his death.

The body, followed by the bishop and a large number of the preachers, was taken to the undertaking parlors of Melver & Mackay, where it was prepared for burial, and was taken to Tallahassee for interment accompanied by Reverends Bingham and Honiker, and Mrs. Fulwood.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR
THE BAND BENEFIT

The entertainment to be given this evening in the club room for the benefit of the Fort Pierce band promises to be a treat to all who attend.

Much care and preparations have been made with each number, and at the popular price of 25 cents for admission a full house should be present.

The following is the program for the entertainment:

Overture—"Black Prince".....	Dalby Band
Monologue.....	R. I. Goodwin
Piano Solo—"The Sylphide".....	Rathbun
Recitation—"Jim Bludso".....	Mrs. Tylander
Selection.....	Mrs. C. T. McCarty
Character Sketch.....	Orchestra
Solo—"I love, and the world is mine".....	P. C. Eldred
Solo—"Since we parted".....	Fances Allitsen
Selection.....	Mrs. D. T. McCarty
Selection.....	Orchestra
March—"Dreadnaught".....	Backus and Lord
Band.....	Dalby

At the close of the program the floor will be cleared and the young people given a dance, a charge of 25 cents being made for this privilege.

The band's generosity in furnishing music for all occasions should secure for them a liberal patronage of this entertainment by our people.

A New Year's Attraction.

In conversation with R. Carlton regarding the holiday season he suggested that a program of sports be arranged for New Year's day, and authorized THE TRIBUNE to issue his challenge for a horse race to take place at Fort Pierce on New Year's day. Mr. Carlton will put up \$100 on his horse, and the challenge is open to any party in St. Lucie or Brevard counties.

Visited Ocean Beach.

Launch parties continue to be popular with the young people. Last Friday night a party went for a ride on the river and a visit to the beach. There were present: Messrs. Roy Faber, Wilson Godfrey, Clyde Killer and Fred Fee; Misses Grace Paxton, Rosa Mace, Annabel Brown and Lillian Milton.

Have you seen our fancy packages of candies? They are beauties. W. E. Goldsmith.

Albert W. Gilchrist, of DeSoto county, has announced that he will not be a candidate for re-election to the legislature.

NEW COUNCIL
IS SWORN IN

Richard D. Whyte Elected President of Aldermen.

MAYOR FEE INSTALLED

Marshal Alderman Sworn In.—President
Whyte Appoints Standing Committees for Ensuing Year.

At the special meeting of the town council on Tuesday night the new town officers recently elected took their oath of office, and entered upon their duties.

County Judge Andrews administered the oath of office to Mayor—elect F. H. Fee, and then Mayor Fee administered the oath to Richard Whyte and G. S. Tucker as members of the council, to Frank M. Tyler as clerk, and to D. L. Alderman as marshal and collector.

The town council for the ensuing year consists of Richard Whyte, president, J. H. Wynn, A. B. Lowry, G. S. Tucker and Edward Edge.

The last meeting of the old city council was called to order by Councilman Dittmar. C. T. McCarty submitted bids from several outside printing houses for the new bonds, together with specimen. After discussion, the committee on bonds was instructed to secure additional bids from Fort Pierce printing offices and to have the bonds printed as speedily as possible.

City Attorney McCarty made a report on the Lee avenue crossing matter. He read a letter from J. R. Parrott, vice-president of the F. E. C. railway, in which he refused to consent to a crossing on that street. The city attorney, commenting on this letter, gave his views as to the procedure necessary to construct a crossing. The letter was then ordered placed on file.

The next business was the canvassing of the vote of the recent town election. The report of the election board was adopted.

After the reading of the bills and the ordering of their payment, the resignation of F. H. Fee as a member of the city council was read and accepted.

The old council then adjourned sine die.

After the organization of the new council with Richard Whyte as president, Edward Edge was elected a member to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Fee.

The marshal's salary for the ensuing year was fixed at \$45 a month and fees. The clerk's salary was fixed at \$50 a year and fees.

The council then adjourned. President of Council Richard D. Whyte has appointed the following standing committees:

Finance—J. H. Wynn, G. S. Tucker, Ed. Edge.

Streets, Sanitary and Improvement—G. S. Tucker, J. H. Wynn, A. B. Lowry.

Rules and Ordinance—A. B. Lowry, Ed. Edge, G. S. Tucker.

Charities—Ed. Edge, A. B. Lowry, G. S. Tucker.

Notes from the Fish Dock.

Fred Ivins, fishing for the East Coast Fish company, made a 197-pound haul of pompano with a 700-yard net one night last week. This is the best catch of pompano made this year, it is said, and everything considered, is probably an extraordinary one for any time in recent years, as these fish are getting scarcer every year.

Frank and Louis Depew got three boat loads of fish one night recently in one haul. The net was so full and heavy that it could not all be put in their boat "The Tribune" at once, and had to be cut in three sections, and as many trips made to the fish house, before the catch was all taken in. In all about 3,000 pounds were taken—one night's work that added \$80 or more to the wealth of the Depews.

The fish shipments for the past two weeks were 225 1-2 barrels—only 65 1-2 of which were sent out in the last seven days. The heaviest shipments were made on the 5th, when 76 barrels went forward.

Fort Pierce Hotel Opens Today.

The Fort Pierce hotel, under the management of John St. Lawrence, will open for the season today. Mr. St. Lawrence has conducted Hill's Homestead, at West Haven, Conn., for a number of years, and is a hotel man of exceptional ability. He has just gotten out from THE TRIBUNE a nice 8-page booklet, filled with information concerning this section, half-tone views of the hotel, his summer resort and various scenes near Fort Pierce, and is sending them out to friends in the north and expects to have a full house in a few weeks. The hotel has been recently thoroughly renovated and refurbished and is in as good condition as when new, and under the able management of Mr. St. Lawrence we expect the house to become as popular as any on the East Coast of Florida.

See our line of candies, fruits and nuts before buying. W. E. Goldsmith.

Special prices on candies and nuts to Sunday schools at W. E. Goldsmith's.